(b) whether Government have made any arrangement for providing houses to these one third poor people;

(c) if so, the number of persons which have already been provided with houses so far under this arrangement togetherwith the number of persons which could not be provided with houses by Government; and

(d) the comprehensive details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) As per the estimates prepared by the Planning Commission, 27.09% rural population of the country is living below the poverty line (BPL) in 1999-2000.

(b) to (d) According to the 1991 Census, the housing shortage in rural areas in the country is 137.2 lakh which includes 103.1 lakh unserviceable kutcha houses and 3.41 lakh houseless. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a number of rural housing schemes—Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) being the flagship programme under which assistance is provided for construction of houses for below the poverty line families in rural areas. So far 96 lakh houses have been constructed/upgraded for below the poverty line rural families under the IAY.

This Ministry is trying to provide assistance for construction of as many houses for BPL rural families as possible within the available financial resources.

Construction of road in Kaljikhal Block in Pauri Garhwal

2910. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 301 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th December, 2002 and state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by PWD, Garhwal regarding construction of road in Kaljikhal Block in Pauri Garhwal District;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in initiation of work for paving of the said road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (c) Uttaranchal Government have reported that survey has been conducted for construction of Urmigaon Nailgaon road in Kaljikhal Block in Pauri District under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and the road is presently under construction. There is not proposal for taking up any other road in the said Block under the PMGSY as they do not fulfil the requirements of the PMGSY Guidelines.

Provision of civic amenities and infrastructures to villages of Azamgarh, U.P.

2911. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme and project for providing various civic amenities and development of infrastructure of villages of Azamgarh and Mau Districts of U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) criteria adopted by Government for allocating funds for development work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development implements Schemes for Rural Housing, Rural Water Supply, Rural Sanitation and Rural Connectivity for providing civic amenities and infrastructure in the rural areas of Azamgarh and Mau districts of U.P. In addition, Watershed Development Scheme is also implemented in Azamgarh district.

(c) The criteria for allocation of funds under the allocation based programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development are given in the Statement.